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20 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 20 April 1960

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, Mr. Gray, Mr. Harr, Mr. Irwin,
Mr. McCone, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Saccio, Mr. Scribner,
Mr. Washburn, Mr. Smith

1. Law of the Sea

Mr. Merchant reported on the status of negotiations leading up to a final vote on this subject. He said that if the U.S. can obtain four more votes for the American-Canadian compromise solution or, failing that, abstentions, this will be enough to assure a favorable outcome.

2. Congressional Resolutions on Captive Nations

Mr. Merchant mentioned the latest in the series of resolutions introduced in Congress on this subject, namely that proposed by Congressman Zablocki of Wisconsin. He said that this resolution is better than any of the previous ones because it avoids mention of areas which are clearly integral parts of the USSR. On the other hand, the Department objects to a paragraph in the resolution which calls for raising this subject at the Summit meetings, on the grounds that this impinges on the prerogatives of the Executive Branch.

3. Governor of the Panama Canal Zone

There was a brief explanation of the circumstances surrounding the recent naming of a new governor for the Panama Canal Zone.

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4. Pete Brandt

Mr. Gray reported on a conversation with Pete Brandt, of the St. Louis Post Dispatch, in which Mr. Brandt had indicated distaste for the OCB and a lack of personal rapport with every member thereof with the exception of Mr. Dulles. The latter explained that this intelligence was news to him, and that he had had virtually no contact with Mr. Brandt since the political campaign of 1948.

5. Joint Staff Paper on West Berlin

Mr. Gray then turned to the paper entitled "Free World Mecca" which had been prepared by the Joint Staff and tabled by Defense at last week's meeting. He said that if there was no objection, it appeared that this might be referred to the Working Group.

At this point Mr. Merchant produced a memorandum prepared by the State Department which outlined some twenty activities already completed or under way, all of which are designed to achieve the results envisioned by the Joint Staff. He pointed out rather vigorously that there appears to have been some lack of communication on this subject, otherwise a formal proposal of this type should have been screened out well down the line.

6. Situation in Korea

Mr. Dulles said that official U.S. estimates of the situation building up in Korea seem in retrospect not to have been nearly strong enough. He reminded the Board that attempts had been made in connection with OCB papers to inject the proper note of realism, particularly with respect to the extent of dictatorial practices and corruption and the probable reactions to those situations. He noted that proponents of these views, including CIA, had not pushed them as vigorously as it now appears would have been advisable.

The Board agreed that every effort should be made to avoid situations of this kind in the future.

7. Miami Herald


The Board discussed the paper tabled by Mr. Washburn having to do with the financial problems being encountered by the Miami

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Herald in maintaining its distribution in Cuba. Opposition was expressed to a suggestion that official representations should be made to the management of this newspaper urging it to absorb anticipated losses.

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ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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